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Representations from the Mill Workers' Union of Kothavalasa, Visakhapatnam district.

* 351 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a representation from the Mill Workers' Union of Kothavalasa, Visakhapatnam district, has been received by the Government praying for extension of electricity from Saripalli to Kothavalasa;

(*b*) whether the Government have enquired into the power requirements of Kothavalasa; and

(*c*) whether the Government have taken action upon the representation?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, if the Government have received representations and enquired into the power requirements, may I know what are the power requirements of Kothavalasa and when the Government intend to extend power to Kothavalasa? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" Originally, Sir, the scheme was reported to be unremunerative and it was dropped. Again investigation was taken up and as a result of the investigation a proposal has been made to supply 16 Nos. industrial load totalling 645 h.p., 41 Nos. agricultural, totalling 196 h.p., 52 street lights, besides other services, at an estimated cost of Rs. 3;23 lakhs. It has jut been received from the Superintending Engineer, Andhra Power System. It is a major scheme and it is being scrutinized in the technical branch."

Allegations against certain officers in Pykara Dam Works.

* 352 *Q.*—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a complaint, dated the 14th September 1952, from one Sri S. Joseph has been received alleging the misappropriation of three tons of iron rods by persons named in the petition who are Government officers engaged in the work in Pykara Dam Works while they were in transit to the site;

(*b*) whether the Government have investigated into the matter; and

(*c*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) In July 1952, much before receipt of the petition referred to in the question, the shortage came to notice and the matter was ordered to be investigated. The investigation has not been completed but three of the officials, viz., the Storekeeper, Transport Overseer and Supervisor in charge

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have been ordered to make up the cost of the shortage. The Government are awaiting the detailed results of investigation."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, in such matters as this, apart from merely making up the cost of shortage, are the Government going to take disciplinary action against the officers concerned?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"I shall read the answer once again, Sir. 'The Government are awaiting the detailed results of investigation.' I do not think the hon. Member wants me to take disciplinary action or any such thing before the investigation is completed."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, does not the fact that the enquiry so far made has disclosed that certain officers have been responsible for the loss and that they were asked to make up the loss show that further action is called for? What further report do the Government want to take disciplinary action?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"My hon. Friend should understand that these things are not done piecemeal."

Representations from the Harijans of Ganti village, East Godavari.

• 353 Q.—SRI T. VISWANATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a representation, dated 5th August 1952 from the Harijans of the village of Ganti, East Godavari, was received by the Government complaining about levy of unjust penalties in respect of, and evictions from, lands in their possession by local Revenue Officers; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—"(*a*) The Government have received a petition, dated 5th August 1952, in which one Sri Saka Satyam has represented on behalf of the landless poor Harijans of Ganti village, East Godavari district, about the levy of penalties for their encroachment upon certain poramboke lands in the village and in regard to the action taken by the local Revenue Officers to evict them from such lands.

"(*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Sir, as quite a number of petitions have been made not only from these people but from people throughout the State, may I ask the Hon. Minister to put some special emphasis on this aspect of Secretariat work and expedite whatever action Government want to take in the matter?"